

28th February 2022

Dear Resident

My name is Kieran O’Byrne and I work with RWE Renewables Ireland Limited (RWE). I am writing to you to let you know that RWE is currently investigating the development of a wind farm in the townlands of Castlegarden and Raheenroche, Co. Kilkenny.

Last year the Government launched the Climate Action Plan 2021 (CAP21) to enable Ireland cut emissions and protect us from the devastating consequences of climate change. Among the measures proposed in CAP 21 is the plan to increase the proportion of renewable electricity, to up to 80% by 2030. This will require a doubling of the amount of onshore wind currently built in Ireland. While offshore wind will play a part, onshore wind is still fundamental to the decarbonisation of the electricity market in Ireland.

The proposed Castlegarden Wind Farm will help Ireland meet these CAP21 targets and generate renewable energy, displace thousands of tonnes of carbon dioxide over its lifetime and lead to cheaper electricity and energy security. The RWE Development Team has identified an initial study area for the proposed Castlegarden Wind Farm that is envisaged to cater for up to 5 turbines with an estimated capacity of up to 25MW. Each turbine could be 180 metres high (from the turbine base to the top of the turbine blade, when blades are in an upright position).

The proposed wind farm is located approximately 3.5km south-east of Dungarvan and approximately 6km north-east of Thomastown. The study area comprises lands at Castlegarden & Raheenroche and measures approximately 211 hectares. The majority of the proposed wind farm study area is agricultural and forestry land. These land uses could continue with a wind farm development at the site.

The accompanying brochure provides you with details about the proposed project, outlines why the area around Castlegarden and Raheenroche is being considered, and outlines the community benefits that may arise from the proposed wind farm. We believe that involving local people from the start is the best way to make sure the wind farm is sensitively designed and brings real benefits to the area, while generating clean, green renewable energy.

RWE is beginning an initial eight week consultation with local residents in and around the Castlegarden Wind Farm study area. I will be calling to each of you personally (Covid-19 allowing) to discuss any questions or concerns you might have about the project. Alternatively if you want to make an appointment with the team, please feel free to contact me on my mobile 087 151 9219 or the office at 056 771 5782 or by email at castlegarden@rwe.com, or you can write to me at Castlegarden Wind Farm Project, RWE Renewables Ireland Limited, Unit 5 Desart House, Lower New Street, Kilkenny, R95 H488. Feedback received from this first stage of the consultation will help inform the design of the proposed wind farm. Once RWE has incorporated the feedback into the proposed project, the development team will reach out to the community with further updates.

Please have a look at the information in the brochure enclosed or on the project website at [www.rwe.com/castlegarden](http://www.rwe.com/castlegarden) and I look forward to meeting you in person in the near future.

Kind regards

Kieran

Kieran O’Byrne

Stakeholder Engagement / Communications – Onshore.

RWE Renewables Ireland